



164th Infantry Regiment Publications

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12-1990

## 164th Infantry News: December 1990

164th Infantry Association

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# The 164<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY News

Vol. 29 No. 4

1990 is our 44th ass'n y



December 1990

## Meet Ed Murphy — Your New President

I was born and raised in Hillsboro, North Dakota, where I attended high school. I was captain of the basketball and boxing team while in high school and graduated in 1937.

In 1933, when I was fifteen, I joined Company L. At the time, the old Springfield rifle was almost as tall as I.

While in service, I reached the rank of Sergeant and went with the 164th to Camp Claiborne and Guadalcanal.

After discharge, I attended NDSU for four years for my prelaw and three years later, received a law degree from UND and have been practicing law in Fargo ever since. I was a Public Defender for the State of North Dakota for 8 years for Cass, Steele and Traill Counties, having resigned from that position in July 1989.

I am Past Commander of Gilbert C. Grafton Post #2 of Fargo and am a life member of the D.A.V. and the V.F.W. and a member of the Legion.

The reunion committee has met on several occasions and is ironing out the wrinkles to assure the membership of one of the best reunions ever.



**Retiring President Harold Krause presenting the gavel to the new president Ed Murphy. On the left is Jerry Wilder, new Vice President. On the right is Secretary/Treasurer Frank Weisgerber and Editor Bill Tillotson.**

## Notes From The Editor . . .

With another successful reunion behind us, we can look forward to the 1991 Reunion in Fargo, North Dakota. Secretary Frank Weisgerber has provided a financial report and the minutes of the 1990 reunion for inclusion in this issue of the "News." Past President Harold Krause has sent us a letter informing us that a number of coffee mugs, caps, Baglien booklets and directories are still available. Prices and ordering information are included in his letter reproduced in this issue. Many Association members have asked for a directory of the members. Rueben Zeller of Carson, North Dakota, has done a fine job of providing this.

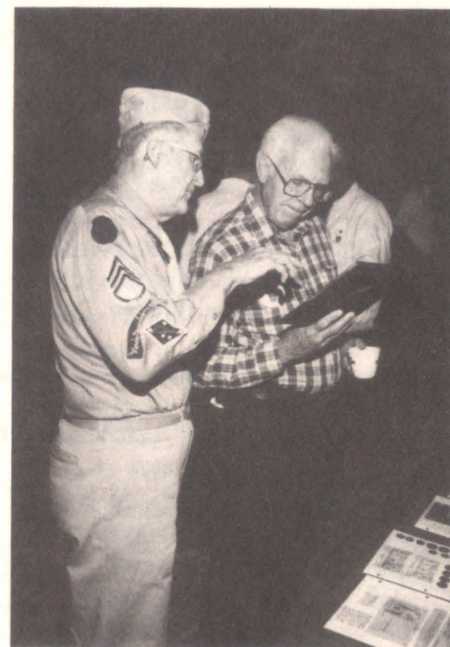
Please note the following items from Secretary Weisgerber: A total of 330 members and wives from 25 different states registered for the 1990 reunion.

The Secretary would appreciate your dues payment for 1991, so we can reduce the costs of notification and mailing.

Raffle ticket winners were: Larry Buck, Danville, IL; Ellis Clancy, Buffalo, ND; Ray Kreidlkamp, Valley City, ND.

The following numbered 1991 membership cards were issued but are not in the records: Numbers 102, 145, 146, 244, 266, 267, 273, 287 and 306. Please check your cards and provide name and address to the secretary if you hold one of the cards.

The editor has received a number of newspaper obituaries. The names will be included in the Last Roll Call. Also a shortened version of the obituaries available will be printed. Please note a number of letters from family or friends of departed members. We regret the death of these, our comrades. We hope that the family and friends are consoled by the thought that they have served their country and fellow citizens faithfully.



**Dennis Ferk and Bob Carr**



# North Dakota Veterans Cemetery

An article in the October issue of the American Legion Magazine states that the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery at Fort Lincoln will be only for career National Guardsmen and that it will be financed solely by state funds. This information is in complete error.

According to information provided by the Adjutant General of North Dakota, National Guard members, as well as veter-

ans of all services who have served actively and their spouses are eligible. This includes all members of the 164th Infantry Association and their wives. There will be no charges for Veterans for plot and interment.

The Cemetery was authorized by the North Dakota State Legislature but no funds were provided. \$100,000 was provided for materials through the National

Guard Bureau. The remaining funds will be provided through voluntary contributions from individuals and organizations. A total cost of \$250,000 is estimated. Completion is scheduled for 1992 with dedication ceremonies held on the 50th anniversary of the landing on Guadalcanal of the 164th Infantry Regiment.

## Obituaries:

**Lester M. Forde** was born June 22, 1917 in Polar, Montana. He died November 8, 1990 in Minneapolis, MN. Lester served in I Company of the 164th Infantry. He is survived by his wife Betty, 2 daughters, 4 step children, 13 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Interment was at the Dawn Valley Cemetery, Bloomington, MN.

**Joseph Haluzak**, 66, was born March 27, 1924 at Wilton, ND. He served with Company A, 164th Infantry. Joe was wounded on Guadalcanal and discharged from the Army in 1943, returning to Wilton. He was disabled in a construction accident and confined to a nursing home for 26 years. He is survived by his wife, Mildred, 3 daughters and 1 son, 13 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

**Herbert Wilson** died November 11 in a Minot, ND hospital. He was born November 23, 1906 in Finley, ND. He started work at age 13 with the Great Northern Railroad. He was inducted into Federal service in February of 1941 with Company F, Carrington, ND. In 1942 he was transferred to the Army Air Corps. He was discharged in 1945 and returned to work with the railroad in Minot, Larimore and New Rockford. In 1949 he and his family moved to Berthold, ND. Survivors include his wife, 1 son, 7 grandchildren, 2 great



**Taken on Fiji 1943 K Co. L to R: Les Vanvig, Paul Fischer, Unknown, Bud Boisen**

grandchildren and 2 sisters.

**Robert B. Olson** died October 5, 1990 in a Virginia, MN hospital. He was a lifetime Tower, MN resident. He was born in Tower, MN October 25, 1917. He served with the 164th Infantry from 1941 to 1943. From 1943 until his discharge in 1945 he served in Africa, Italy, France and Germany. After the war he returned to Tower to work in the family retail businesses. Survivors are 2 daughters, 2 grandchildren and 3 brothers.

## Last Roll Call

Herbert Wilson, Minot, ND .....	November 11, 1990
Joseph Haluzak, Dickinson, ND .....	November 29, 1990
Robert B. Olson, Tower, MN .....	October 5, 1990
Lester M. Forde, Minneapolis, MN .....	November 8, 1990
Helmuth F. Wolter, Fargo, ND .....	March 18, 1990
Dr. Morris Stroud, Wayne, PA .....	April 30, 1990
Patrick H. Doolin, Chicago, IL .....	January 4, 1990
Ralph Hamre, Stanley, ND .....	June 28, 1990
Lester W. Kerbaugh, Chula Vista, CA .....	December 10, 1990

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**BILL TILLOTSON**  
Editor

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Bismarck, N.D. 58502.



# Letters . . .

Oct. 9, 1990

Dear Bill:

It certainly was a pleasure meeting you and talking to you personally at the Reunion last weekend. All of you have done and are doing a great job for the Association and I certainly express my thanks for all of your efforts.

You probably remember that I made some remarks about contributions to the Guadalcanal Memorial from both the State and the Association when I had the opportunity at the podium on Saturday morning, so I would appreciate it if you and Frank could work out something with your Legislature with someone sponsoring a Bill approving a substantial contribution. Also, I believe that the Association should also recognize those of our 164 members who died on Guadalcanal with a contribution as well. Frank has the paperwork on this and we discussed this at some length, but before we go to any great lengths at the present someone should contact Robert Muercke, who is listed on the form as a committee member, and find out how our contributions would memorialize our people and who is going to maintain the Memorial, the cost and for how long.

Another favor I would like to ask involves my mailing a brochure on the "Return Trip to the South Pacific." I plan on mailing a copy to all of our members and I notice that you use mailing labels on the "164th Infantry News." Could you send me a complete set of those mailing labels for that purpose? If you can I would most appreciate receiving them as soon as possible.

Many thanks again and I look forward to seeing again next year and also in 1992 on the South Pacific Cruise.

Best regards,  
Fred Flo  
23722 Villena  
Mission Viejo, CA 92692

Nov. 30, 1990

Dear Mr. Weisgerber:

Please convey my thanks to the members of the 164th Infantry Association for copies of the 164th Infantry history *Citizens As Soldiers* and Lt. Col. Samuel Baglien's account of the regiment activity on Guadalcanal. They look to be excellent source material for individuals engaged in research here at National Headquarters who may be interested in National Guard activity as well as personal account of an individual and his unit's specific action during World War II.

Your association member Mr. George Dingley presented to The American Legion Library these copies and I thank him for his thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,  
Joseph J. Hovish  
Librarian & Curator  
The American Legion  
National Headquarters  
PO Box 1055  
Indianapolis, IN 46206  
(317) 635-8411

★ ★ ★

Oct. 14, 1990

Dear Mr. Tillotson,

It is with great sadness that I write to tell you that my husband, Dr. Morris W. Stroud III, died on April 30, 1990 after a long and valiant battle against cancer.

Morris always spoke of his comrades in the 164th Infantry with much affection, and greatly enjoyed reunions with them.

I enclose a copy of his obituary from a Philadelphia newspaper.

Sincerely,  
Patricia Lyson Stroud  
613 Maplewood Road  
Wayne, PA 19087

To members of the 164th Infantry Association:

I am taking this opportunity to thank the members of the reunion committee for all the planning and work they did before and during the reunion. I was fortunate to have such a dedicated committee to work with. The reunion committee members were: Frank Weisgerber, Bill Tillotson, Gil Shirley, Marge Shirley, Edna Krause, Don Robinson and Reuben Zeller. Also many thanks to all the volunteer (army way) workers that assisted our reunion committee during the reunion. I will not try to mention the names of the workers as I may forget someone.

Many thanks to those of you that pre-registered early. This helped us a lot. A special thank you to all of you that purchased the raffle tickets. Your response to this was beyond all expectations. This outstanding support and cooperation was most gratifying.

Those of you that were unable to attend the reunion please be advised that we have mugs, caps and Guadalcanal Books left. These are \$5.00 each plus postage. We also have some name and address listing booklets of all the members of our association. These are \$1.00 each plus \$1.00 for mailing. If you want any of these items please contact our Secretary-Treasurer: Frank Weisgerber, 1202 N. Mandan St. Bismarck, N.D. 58501.

Bill, how about publishing the names and addresses of new members and also address changes of present members in the News so that those of us that have this booklet may update it?

Please accept my sincere and heart-felt thanks for the honor and privilege of serving as your president this past year. It was an enjoyable and gratifying experience.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,  
Harold Krause  
Carson, N.D.

★ ★ ★

Oct. 12, 1990

My husband, Helmuth F. Wolter, passed away March 18, 1990.

He had not been in the best health for the past three years or so, but his death was unexpected, a heart problem. Besides me, his wife, he leaves four children and five grandchildren.

Sincerely yours,  
Beverly Wolter  
1522 10 Avenue South  
Fargo, ND 58103

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP and/or ANNUAL RENEWAL 164th INFANTRY ASSOCIATION of the UNITED STATES

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Served With and Dates \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code No. \_\_\_\_\_

**DUES FOR 1990 — \$5.00 which includes \$4.00 subscription to 164th News.  
Send to Secretary 164th Infantry, Box 1111, Bismarck, North Dakota 58502**



Sept. 18, 1990

Dear V.R.:

Many thanks for your kind letter and check for dues.

V.R., you sound a bit disgusted because I failed to put a reunion notice in the last Echoe's of your fine regiment. Really, my friend, I don't place any reunion notices in our Echoe's unless I get the information from their reunion chairman. This, I feel, is only proper. Yes, I do receive your 164th newsletter and did know you were having a reunion but I have found that it is best not to place information unless it is requested.

By the way of all the Army regiments that hit the canal the 164th is my top-heavy favorite and I honestly would not do a darn thing to slight them in any way. You guys did a helluva job after you got there and really got your baptism of fire under very trying circumstances.

I'll forward your check on to our national secretary and you should be receiving your receipt in a couple of weeks.

In Comradeship,  
Ted Blahnik  
Guadalcanal Campaign  
Veterans  
Box 181  
Coloma, MI 49038-0181

I sure like the name of that road you live on. I have a feeling it must have been named by an old prospector.



**F Company: George Isenberg, George B. Laughlin. The ones pictured are Bernie Wagner and friend.**



**L Company: Ed Murphy, Earl Lipke, Thurston & Christine Nelson, George Christensen.**

Sir:

I am enclosing the obituary of my father, Robert B. Olson, who died on October 5.

The night of his death I found a box containing every letter he wrote to his father during the war. They were fascinating to read! Dad wasn't particularly expressive, so it was fun to read about he and his buddies purchasing horses and golf clubs, marooning a launch on an island in low tide and the futile attempts at deer hunting in the South Pacific. The 164th obviously meant a great deal to him.

He was diagnosed with lung cancer last December, had a good summer on his beloved Lake Vermilion and died very peacefully after five days in hospital. We are thankful he didn't suffer and didn't have to be hospitalized very long.

Should you take note of his death in the newsletter, I would appreciate receiving a copy.

Thanks to all his buddies in the 164th for their friendship with Dad.

Sincerely,  
Lynn Olson  
5007 9th St. So.  
Arlington, VA 22204

P.S. I just noticed that Don Van Slyke is pictured in your last newsletter — what a pleasure to see a photo of someone Dad wrote so much about — hi to you, Van!

★ ★ ★

Dear Bill:

**HOW GUADALCANAL WAS REALLY WON**

While visiting with some of my old comrades at the American Legion club room in Fargo recently, I heard this Top Secret report. Please do not print this in any other paper other than The 164th Infantry News; we would not want to alienate the fine rapport we have with the U.S. Marine Corps. However, you have my permission to reprint this secretive information.

When Hirohito received the report that the boys from Co. L. (The Dirty Half Dozen) - Edward J. Murphy, Krogh, Killer, Anada, Dorn and Jackpine were on Guadalcanal, he sent a secret message to his Generals to abandon the Island.

Former Sgt. Walt Byers of Co. B swore to the accuracy of this report.

Former Lt. Eli Dobervich of Hq. Co. S-2 section intercepted and decoded Tokio Rose's relay transmission of this message.

Sincerely,  
Lewis A. Borsheim  
Box 165  
Cummings, ND 58223

(Your editor would not even try to disprove this report.)

9-24-90

Dear Reunion Committee and 164th Infantry Members,

It is with great sadness I have to inform you of Patrick H. Doolin's death. Pat passed away on January 4, 1990 after being sick for one year with cancer. He attended the reunion last year in October and truly enjoyed himself, even though he was very ill at the time. I'm sure both he and I would have been at the reunion this year had he survived. He really enjoyed the reunions he attended and seeing his old friends. He tried for years to find out about the 164th reunions and when and where they would be held. I'm sure he would have attended many more had he known. I am enclosing the newspaper clipping. Please publish it in the Infantry news. Also enclosed is my check for \$15.00 for three raffle tickets plus \$5.00 for one of the coffee mugs you are going to sell at the reunion. I would like you to send me one if possible. Pat was a great loss to me! Thank you so very much!

Alice E. Doolin  
810 Caton Avenue  
Joliet, IL 60435  
815-722-8651

★ ★ ★

Nov. 16, 1990

Dear Bill,

Enclosed is the obituary for Herbert Wilson. He served with Co. F.

Enjoy the 164th news, keep up the good work. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
John Paulson  
80 2nd Ave.  
Carrington, ND 58421

P.S. Herb was a great guy, and will be missed.

★ ★ ★

Oct. 10, 1990

Enclosed is \$4.00 for a subscription to the 164th News. When I was at the reunion in Bismarck, it completely slipped my mind.

Since Glen passed away last March this was the first time I went alone. I was thankful I did as I don't want to lose touch with all our "special" friends.

Thank you,  
Alice Rott  
3522 2nd St. N  
Fargo, ND 58102

If I'm supposed to pay dues please let me know.



# Minutes — 1990 Annual Business Meeting

The annual business meeting of the 164th Infantry Association of the United States was called to order by President Krause at 10:00 am 6 Oct 1990 at the Radisson Inn, Bismarck, ND.

## Officers present:

Harold Krause, President  
Ed Murphy, Vice President  
Bill Tillotson, Editor  
Frank Weisgerber, Sect/Treas  
Don Robinson, Asst Sect/Treas

The Colors were posted by the 191st MP Co, North Dakota Army National Guard. Pledge of allegiance was led by President Krause. Emory Swanson, representing the Mayor of Bismarck, extended a welcome to all members from the city of Bismarck. Curtis Twete, State Legion Commander addressed the meeting with a welcome from the Legion Hq.

MG Alex Macdonald, AG of North Dakota spoke to the members on the up-

coming plans for the 50th anniversary of the Guadalcanal action and a rundown on the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery now in the construction stage at Ft. Lincoln State Park south of Mandan, ND.

Gen. Fred Flo addressed the meeting, outlining plans for the cruise-air travel to the SW Pacific in 1992 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Solomon Islands action. He also commented on the possibility of State appropriated funding by the 1991 Legislature to contribute to the completion of the Memorial on Guadalcanal honoring the 164th Infantry who participated in that WWII campaign.

The minutes of the 1989 business meeting were published in the December 1989 issue of the News and were accepted as published by voice vote upon the recommendation of President Krause.

President elect for 1991, Ed Murphy, spoke on the preparations and facilities in

Fargo for the 1991 Reunion.

The Secretary Treasurer presented the annual financial report to the meeting. Motion to accept the report by Wally Johnson, seconded by Bob Well. Approved by voice vote. Copy attached to this document.

The following committees were appointed prior to the business meeting by President Krause with chairmen reporting as indicated:

Time & Place - George Christensen

Williston, Bismarck, and Grand Forks submitted bids for the 1992 Reunion. On the recommendation of John Landowski, Grand Forks withdrew the bid. By standing vote, the members selected Williston to host the 1992 Reunion.

Nominations - George Christensen

Nominations of officers for 1991 were as follows:

President - Ed Murphy  
Vice President - Jerry Wilder  
Editor - Bill Tillotson  
Secretary/Treasurer - Frank Weisgerber  
Asst. Secretary/Treasurer - Don Robinson

Motion to accept the nominations was made by Paul Dickerson and seconded by Francis Sommers. Passed by voice vote.

Auditing Committee - Wally Johnson

Chairman Johnson reported that all financial records are in order and made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Bob Well and passed by voice vote.

President Krause called for any old business, there being none, he opened the floor for new business.

Increase of annual membership dues - after discussion on this subject, a motion was made by V.P. Powers to increase the annual dues to \$10.00 effective 1 Jan 1992. Seconded by Tony Beer with motion carried by voice vote.

North Dakota Veterans Cemetery - after a short discussion, a motion was made by Tony Beer to donate \$5000.00 to this project located at Ft. Lincoln State Park. Seconded by Jerry Wilder, motion carried by voice vote.

An expression of thanks and appreciation was extended to all officers and committees for a very successful reunion.

There being no further business, President Krause called for a motion to adjourn, motion by Don Robinson, seconded by Wally Johnson. Meeting adjourned at 11:20 Sat 6 Oct 1990.

## Financial Report — Fiscal Year 1990

### INCOME:

End of FY 1989 balance		\$ 18,682.40
Interest on CDs	\$ 1,689.49	
Interest on Ck Acct	369.47	
1989 Reunion Regis Fees	2,062.50	
Dues, life memberships, donations	6,021.50	
1990 Reunion Regis fees	2,912.50	
Raffle tickets	3,525.00	
Other - Books, Caps, Mugs, Tour	1,712.26	
Total 1990 Income	21,835.75	<u>21,835.75</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 40,518.15</b>

### EXPENDITURES:

1989 Reunion	\$ 18,921.25	
164th News	3,683.27	
Postage	780.67	
Printing	860.69	
Adm, insurance, supplies	1,009.27	
Dakota Screen - logo coffee mugs	465.88	
Capital Trophy - 90 reunion buttons	418.70	
Total 1990 expenditures	25,819.73	<u>25,819.73</u>
Total unobligated funds		<u>14,678.42</u>
Total amount of Certificates of Deposit and Trust Funds on Deposit		<u>42,157.37</u>
<b>TOTAL NET WORTH</b>		<b>\$ 56,835.79</b>

I certify that the above financial report for the 164th Infantry Association of the United States is true and correct for the Fiscal Year ending 30 Sep 1990.

/s/

FRANK WEISGERBER, Secretary Treasurer



Nov. 4, 1990

Dear 164 Members:

Sorry this is late. Thought the wife had sent dues in before. Hope it isn't too late.

Hope all had a good year. We are O.K. Spent a month in ND and Minn. Aug. 15 thru Sept. 15. Our grandson got married in Red Lake Falls. So had to take them in.

Stopped on our way to ND with Mrs. Melvin Purrley in Denver. Spent a couple days with Dick Stuwell and wife. Got to see a lot of Colorado high country. It was very pretty.

Hope it was a good reunion. Maybe some year we can make one.

The weather has finally cooled off. This was one of our hottest summers, since we've been here. Hope all is well at your houses. If our way, give us a call.

Take care,  
Dan Oster  
Co. "G" 164th Inf.  
9132 E. Elman Ave.  
Mesa, AZ 85208

★ ★ ★

Nov. 13, 1990

Dear Bill,

Am enclosing the obits notice of old comrade Les "Shorty" Forde's death. I believe he was in I Co.

Sorry I couldn't make the '90 reunion. Will sure try for '91 in Fargo.

Sincerely,  
Willard J. Bandow  
Hq. Co. 3rd Bn.  
6245 4th Ave. S  
Minneapolis, MN 55423

Sept. 14, 1990

Dear Sir,

I noticed your note in the V.F.W. Magazine for a reunion of the 164th.

I served with Hq. Co. 2nd Bn. 164 Inf. from May of 1944 until occupation in Japan. I was 1 point shy of going home with the Americal and I was transferred to the 1st Cav. Div. for three more months.

I was proud to serve with the 164th. There were none braver than the wheat farmers of North Dakota.

I am enclosing a picture of the communications platoon on Bougainville. Rotation had begun and most of the original guardsmen had gone home.

Best wishes for a wonderful reunion and health and happiness to all.

Sincerely,  
James A. Mullen  
Wire Section  
Hq 2nd 164 Inf.  
APO 716 ND  
41 Connell St.  
Quincy, MA 02169



Top Row left to right Gil Olerud, Vern Shields, Jim Mullen, Skidol Olerud. Third from left kneeling Milton Slahlecker. The rest are unknown.

Sept. 18, 1990

Dear Comrade,

Just to inform you that I have patches of the 164th Infantry Regiment. Full color pocket patch size 3x3 with the motto "Jesuis Pret." Same design as the 164th Regimental crest @ \$4.00 each. Maybe some of the members may be interested.

Your in comradeship,  
James F. Carroll  
4 Cedar St.  
Lynbrook, NY 11563

★ ★ ★

Nov. 19, 1990

Dear Bill,

You will find enclosed the obituary for Herb Wilson from Berthold whom I had known for 53 years. Three 164 members from Minot attended the funeral.

Best wishes to you and yours for the holidays.

Your comrade,  
George M. Christensen  
15 Fairway  
Minot, ND 58701

## The 164th Infantry News

Box 1111  
BISMARCK, N.D. 58502

UPS - 699 - 800  
2ND CLASS BISMARCK, ND 58502

"A BILLBOARD READS-  
"SUPPORT OUR TROOPS  
IN PRAYER"- AND THAT'S  
REAL GOOD!  
-AND ANOTHER GOOD ONE  
IS, "SUPPORT OUR TROOPS  
IN CASH!"

